

CHAPTER NO. 867

SENATE BILL NO. 2928

By Kyle

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2502

By Kernell

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 4, relative to the provision of fire protection on privately owned forest lands.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The Commissioner of Agriculture is hereby urged, in consultation with the Tennessee Forestry Commission, to study alternative cost recovery methodologies relative to providing forest protection services on private forestland. If such study is undertaken, the methodologies studied shall include, but shall not be limited to, fees, fire protection property taxes, severance taxes, yield taxes, and other options that recover costs incurred by the department from the prevention, detection, and suppression of forest fires.

SECTION 2. If such study is undertaken, the Commissioner of Agriculture shall submit findings and recommendations to members of the House Conservation and Environment Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, the Senate Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee, and the Senate Commerce, Labor and Agriculture Committee by January 15, 2003.


SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: July 4, 2002**

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 2002**

  
DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR